



Appeals and State Hearings Newsletter

website: www.ladpss.org

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Our address: 3833 S Vermont Ave - 4th floor
Los Angeles, CA 90037

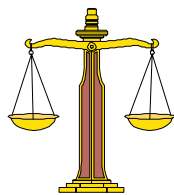
Look Out For Outlook !!



ASH and district appeals liaison staff can now communicate by e-mail using the Microsoft Outlook feature on the LEADER terminals.

Most Districts have already set up Outlook e-mail accounts for their designated staff. This electronic communication is a faster and more expedient way to do business as well as a better form of transmitting full informational messages and documents. We encourage both ASH and line appeals liaisons staff to take advantage of this enhanced tool.

Hearings>Superior Court>Law



The outcome of a request for a hearing often becomes the basis for future laws. If the decision is not granted in the claimant's favor, he/she may pursue the matter in Superior Court and thus set a precedence for like cases. The interpretation of state law may also be challenged on behalf of a class of people by legal representation in Superior Court. Decisions rendered in these Superior Court cases may then become law and the regulations are amended to reflect the implementation of these decisions. An example of the effect of Superior Court challenges is the decision in Sneed v. Kizer which has changed the way counties calculate the share of cost for households that have children with their own income.

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What is the State Hearing Division? (SHD)

It's a division within the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). CDSS is part of the Health and Human Services Agency of the State of California. SHD is responsible for adjudicating (deciding) welfare and social services disputes about CalWORKs, Food Stamps, Adult Services, Refugee Programs, and Social Services on behalf of the Director of the CDSS. SHD also adjudicates disputes concerning Medi-Cal programs on behalf of the Director of the California Department of Health Services (CDHS). There are 60 Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) in SHD who decide cases throughout the state. Los Angeles is one of the Regional Offices of SHD. The Appeals Section works closely with SHD to provide an efficient and effective state hearing process to applicants and recipients of public social services.

FAREWELL

On May 19, 2003, ASH bid farewell to Appeals Hearing Specialist, Elaine Richman. Elaine came to Appeals in 1995 and retired after 30 years of County Service.



Sandra Gibbs, Supervising Appeals Hearing Specialist accepted a new assignment with the Food Stamp Program Section effective June 9, 2003.



Case Correction Memos (PA 411) sent by ASH to district offices now identify potential Food Stamp errors. If the issue involves Food Stamps, a notation on the upper right hand corner of the PA 411 alerts districts that the case in question may have a potential Food Stamp error!



In May 2003, there were 250 PA 411's with FS alert notations. Remember that a corrected case means one less error case!!!